

UNIT STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

18 MAR 1986

S. Michael Tymiak, P.E.
Manager, Previously Operated Properties
Environmental Resources
Koppers Company, Inc.
1940 Koppers Building
436 Seventh Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Re: South Cavalcade site

Dear Mr. Tymiak:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would like to respond to the two questions that you raised in your February 3, 1986 letter concerning analysis of the groundwater from the "180 foot aquifer". First, only the analysis for polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH's) needs to be carried to the one part-per-trillion level; all other analysis is per the RI/FS Work Plan. Second, if a compound specific, one part-per-trillion, analytical technique is employed, EPA is interested in the following compounds:

Benzo(a)anthracene
Chrysene
Benzo(b)fluoranthene
Benzo(k)fluoranthene
Benzo(a)pyrene
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene

Koppers may find that the standard GC/MS techniques are inadequate for this ultra low detection limit. Maybe a solvent extraction from large volumes of water followed by cleanup procedures and high performance liquid chromatography would be more appropriate. Please consult with us on the analytical methodology that Koppers selects.

I would also like to provide written comments on Koppers' Electromagnetic Geophysical Survey Report, Koppers cover letter dated January 28, 1986. EPA has three comments, one that runs through the document and two specific comments. The phrase "anomalies associated with potential fill areas" is encountered throughout the document. EPA believed that the Electromagnetic (EM) survey was conducted to delineate EM anomalies that might be associated with subsurface contamination. A simple switch of the phrases would correct this problem. The concept behind Figure 3 is not clear. Lastly, EPA would like to know why the western half of the central portion of the site was not surveyed. I trust that these comments are similar to the verbal comments that Mr. Cochran provided to Mr. Campbell in their telephone conversation the week following EPA's receipt of the EM survey.

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Also, I have enclosed a copy of the report Terra-Mar Inc. wrote for Houston Belt and Terminal Railroad detailing the contaminant survey Terra-Mar conducted along the railroad tracks that form the western boundary of the site.

Finally, EPA does not have any objection to maintaining separate correspondence for the South Cavalcade and Texarkana sites. Our in house filing system is in fact separate. Should you have any questions please contact John at (214) 767-9700.

Sincerely yours,

Larry Wright, Chief
Superfund Enforcement Section

Enclosure

cc: C. Faulds, TWC
R. Tobin, MRA

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